



Field Training/ Workshop on DPR preparation for Rejuvenation of Mahanadi Rivers through Forestry Interventions

Venue- Samikshya Conference Hall Athamallik Forest Division, Odisha



*Institute of Forest Productivity
Ranchi, Jharkhand*



*Athamallik Forest Division
Athamallik, Dist.- Angul*

The Field Training Workshop on DPR preparation for Rejuvenation of Mahanadi River through Forestry Interventions was organized by the Athamallik Forest Division, Angul District, Odisha in collaboration with the Institute of Forest Productivity, Ranchi, Jharkhand. The dignitaries included Dr. Pradeep Raj Karat, IFS, RCCF Angul circle cum Field Director Satkosia Tiger Reserve; Shri Samyak Samantara, OFS-I (SB) DFO Athamallik; Shri Jasobanta Sethi OFS-I (SB) DFO Boudh; Shri. Sanjeev Kumar Bhatia, Scientist-D, Institute of Forest Productivity, Ranchi, Jharkhand and Dr. P. K. Das, Scientist-D, Institute of Forest Productivity, Ranchi, Jharkhand, Shri Piush Baxla (GIS Expert) and Shri Dharmendra Kumar (GIS expert), and delegates from the forest department actively participated in the workshop and offered their important suggestions.

The workshop was organized with the objective to introduce the data collection formats to the delegates of forest department of Athamallik and Boudh to ensure collection of required data, establishment of proper understanding, planning and acceptance of models at the end with due consensus. The program received overwhelming response from the DFOs of Athmallik Forest Division and Boudh division including front line staff of the respective forest divisions.

Opening Session Addresses

At the outset, Shri Samyak Samantara, OFS-I (SB) DFO Athamallik, welcomed all the dignitaries and the delegates and introduced the participants about the importance and the need for conducting the field training workshop on Mahanadi river Rejuvenation and DPR preparation. In his address he accentuated the rejuvenation programme of Mahanadi through forestry intervention for which Odisha forest department is already exercising River Mahanadi Mission and elaborated the components and success of this mission. After the brief introduction about DPR, he highlighted the need of river centric programs and the seedling distribution.

Besides, speaking on importance of conserving rivers by increasing the natural E-flow, he introduced the objectives of the workshop to the house and called for an in-depth deliberation from all the participants, who would play a vital role in field data collection. He also instructed the trainees to collect the site information and to submit the same to the division within a stipulated time i.e., 15th September 2019.

Dr. Pradeep Raj Karat, IFS, RCCF Angul circle cum Field Director Satkosia Tiger Reserve, in his address to the house discussed about relevance of study, climate change, rainfall pattern. He highlighted the need for creation of baseline data for DPR preparation. He outlined the importance of this DPR project and instructed all the trainees of Athmallik and Boudh divisions to collect the required information as given in the data formats (Set-I to Set-V).

Shri Jasobanta Sethi, OFS-I (SB) DFO Boudh, in his address stated the importance of preliminary works for DPR preparation. He emphasized the need of collaboration with the revenue department in order to figure out the government land availability. He emphasized the need of plantation for rejuvenation of Mahanadi in the next 10-15 years in 1-5 km buffer zone from the river bank. He also requested the delegates to deliberate on the requirement of buffer zones in the riverscapes to be decided for consideration of interventions, like 5 km along the Main River and 2 km along the tributaries and distributaries. Besides any other modifications if required in the formats may also be suggested. He emphasized on field level data collection and regular meetings to consider the suitable land for plantation. He also focused on importance of consent of local people to evict the area if needed.

Dr. P. K. Das, Scientist-D, Institute of Forest Productivity, Ranchi, Jharkhand, talked about different baseline data required and their relevance in the study. Further, he discussed the importance of SMC works, pit size, GPS co-ordinates of the site as per the shape of site.

Shri Sanjeev Kumar Bhatia, Scientist-D, Institute of Forest Productivity, Ranchi, Jharkhand, appreciated the initiative taken by the Athamallik Forest Division, District Angul, towards conservation and rejuvenation of rivers. He elaborately explained the need and type of baseline data which includes current status of Flora and Fauna, current land use, legal status of land, slope and aspect, geology and soil type, special features of the site, etc. He discussed the challenges faced by the forest officials during the process of data collection.

Discussions, Comments and Responses

Session started with the proforma of data collection for proposed site by Dr. P. K. Das Scientist-D and Sri Sanjeev Kumar Scientist-D, Institute of Forest Productivity. They described about the proforma that has been prepared for site selection for plantation under DPR Preparation of Forestry Interventions for Mahanadi. They talked about the attribute datasets that would be required to be gathered as per the formats devised for gathering of detailed activity wise information. Proforma was categories in 5 set (five). Set-I details of Natural Landscape, Set-II details about Agricultural Landscape, Set-III details about urban landscape, Set-IV details about other interventions and Set-V details about other activity to be carried out for the rejuvenation of Mahanadi River. Name of the activity and financial outlay was described for all the five sets of data format. They underlined the need of the Geographical details, Baseline data, GPS Coordinates to be collected for the DPR Mahanadi project. They explained that this is with regards to the collection of information and relevant data for sites i). where the forestry interventions have already been carried out in the past, ii) for the sites where such interventions already proposed in the other project to be implemented the SFD in the future and iii) new site to be proposed for the Mahanadi river project.

The house was informed to collect the GPS co-ordinates of above mentioned three sites so as to compile them and come out with proposed Model of forestry interventions under this project. The requirement of current status of flora and fauna, land use, legal status of land, geology and soil type, slope and aspect, average annual rainfall, special features of the site to be collected in the data format were explained in detail. As a guide line tributary distance from Main River, Suggestive species for plantation, pit size, details about the fencing works for safety of plants, details of SMC works, planting cost, maintenance of plants in subsequent four years of plantation under this DPR Mahanadi project were also discussed. During the presentation, queries to fill the data format raised by the Range Officers and Forest officers were also discussed in detail and satisfactorily replied by the resource persons of IFP, Ranchi. They discussed about the plantation of pure line species in some places whereas in other places planted with the companion species.

The formal Vote of Thanks for the workshop was proposed by Shri Samyak Samantara, OFS -I (SB) DFO Athamallik, who thanked all the dignitaries of IFP, Ranchi and the delegates of Athmallik and Boudh Forest Divisions for their active participation, deliberations and organizing the event successfully and showing keen interest in generating the information required for the project. The Institute of Forest Productivity, Ranchi also thank Dr. A.K. Pathak, APCCF, PPA, OFD and the Nodal Officer (Mahanadi DPR), Shri Pradeep Raj Karat, RCCF, Angul, Shri Samyak Samantra, DFO Athamallik and Shri Jasobanta Sethi, DFO Boudh, the local organizing team and all the participants for the successful organization of the event and fruitful discussions.

Glimpses of the workshop



Dignitaries on the dais & Welcome Address by both DFO Athamallik and Boudh District.



Lightening of lamp and Inauguration



Photographs of Workshop on Field Training on DPR preparation for Rejuvenation of Mahanadi Rivers through Forestry Interventions